

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1

TOPIC Justerbog-Altes Lager Airfield

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 16 June to 25 July 1953

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 14 August 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The following air activity was observed at Justerbog Altes Lager airfield between 16 June and 11 July 1953:

16 June. Three swept-back jet fighters took off twice at intervals of 30 seconds and remained aloft for 25 minutes. At about 8 a.m., 20 Il-28s with their noses pointing to the north were parked along the southern section of the runway. Eight swept-back jet fighters were observed east of these Il-28s.

17 June. An alert was given at about 9 a.m.; all aircraft at this time were parked south of the runway, except for the Il-28 and the Uil-28. Their crews stood in front of the aircraft. All other personnel were engaged in patrol duty and guard duty. At about 3 p.m., four MiG-15s took off at short intervals.

20 June. At about 8 a.m., a swept-back jet fighter took off. Twenty-four jet fighters were parked at the field. At 11 a.m., a Li-2 landed and 20 Il-28 and Uil-28s were parked north of the hangars.

22 June. At 8 a.m., two Il-28s took off and practiced flying for about 25 minutes. Two twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assemblies landed at 3 p.m.

23 June. An Il-10 apparently a courier plane, landed at the field at 6 a.m.

24 June. A twin-engine aircraft took off at 6:30 a.m. It towed a sleeve target which was fired upon by 37-mm AA guns until about 9 a.m.

27 June. Landings were made by 2 twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assemblies at about 7:30 a.m. and by 4 other aircraft of the same type at 8 a.m. Meanwhile, 20 Il-28 and Uil-28s, 12 swept-back jet fighters and 3 biplanes were parked at the field.

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25X1 29 June. At about 7 a.m., Il-28s [ ] took off at intervals of 30 seconds and practiced formation flying until 9 a.m. A formation of nine ground attack aircraft landed at the field at 8:30 a.m. and, after a short interval, took off and headed toward Reinsdorf. When this formation was approximately over Markendorf, another formation of nine aircraft landed. Shortly afterwards, these nine aircraft took off and also headed toward Reinsdorf. This same procedure was repeated twice more. Finally, a flight of three aircraft appeared. At 10:55 a.m., four twin-engine aircraft took off and made a 35-minute formation flight. At about 3 p.m., Il-28s [ ] took off and practiced formation flying for 30 to 35 minutes. This same type formation flight was repeated twice in the afternoon.

25X1 1 July. Between 7 a.m. and 8:45 a.m., 37-mm AA guns practiced firing at a sleeve target which was towed by a twin-engine aircraft. Il-28s [ ] were repeatedly observed aloft during the morning. Five Il-28s practiced formation flying during the afternoon.

4 July. During the morning, swept-back jet fighters practiced flying in flights of threes.

5 July. Take-offs were made by 6 Il-28s at about 8 a.m. and again by 3 Il-28s at 9:30 a.m. The landings were not observed. After 10 a.m., there was no activity at the field.

6 July. No air activity was observed at the field between 7 a.m. and midnight. Throughout the day, the equipment of the Il-28 unit was being loaded onto trucks. In the Kech construction office, billeting equipment was turned in by a Soviet named Garashov (fnu). Soviets stated that the Il-28 unit would be transferred to Poland.

7 July. The last Il-28s probably took off during the night.

8 July. No air activity was observed.

9 July. Flights were made by swept-back jet fighters during the morning and afternoon.

10 July. Around 8 a.m., three ground attack aircraft were parked at the field.

11 July. Around 10:30 a.m., 2 ground attack aircraft took off and, subsequently, 3 twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assemblies took off. At the same time, 12 ground attack aircraft and 6 swept-back jet fighters were observed at the field.

2. On 16 June, all civilian personnel had to leave the airfield, which was subsequently placed off limits for three days. Only pedestrians were allowed to proceed along the Justerbog-Altes Lager road. All military installations were guarded by sentries, employing tanks, AA guns, rocket launchers, AA guns and AI guns. The motorized units on the road to Justerbog carried firearms. All Germans who were employed by the Soviets were accompanied by Soviets armed with rifles, during the disturbances.

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3. At about 8:30 a.m. on 10 July, a jet engine was tested on the old test stand for about 25 minutes, alternately running at maximum speed for 3 minutes and, then, at a lower speed for 5 minutes.
4. On 15 July, intensive air activity was conducted by ground attack planes and swept-back fighters, jet aircraft. The latter were again observed at the field on 17 July.
5. At 10:35 a.m. on 18 July, 15 MiG-15 and U-MiG-15s were parked at the field while two planes of the same type approached for landing. The aircraft were fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks.
6. The following air activity was observed on 20 and 25 July:

20 July. At about 9:30 a.m., 9 single-engine aircraft taxied to the take-off point and subsequently took off at short intervals. They assembled in squadron wedge formation flying a left bank, repeatedly crossed the field and landed after 45 to 50 minutes. Ten minutes after the take-off, 7 other single-engine aircraft took off in formation. Later, the first single-engine aircraft to take off, once more went through their earlier routine. Up to 2 p.m., a jet fighter and a biplane had been observed in the air. Then, air activity was discontinued. In addition to the ground attack aircraft which were used in the flying, 7 swept-back jet fighters, 3 twin-engine aircraft, probably B-25s, 1 biplane and 1 high-wing monoplane were observed at the field.

25 July. At 7 a.m., there was air activity by single-engine aircraft. At about 8 p.m., a twin-engine aircraft, probably a B-25, took off, climbed to an altitude of 3,000 meters, then crossed the training area north of the airfield and released a sieve target before landing. At each approach flight over the training area, heavy AA guns fired. The firing practice continued until about 6:30 p.m.

7. On 25 July, the AA gun emplacement along the eastern edge of the field was still occupied by six 37-mm guns. A new, two-wire telephone line extended from the emplacement toward Jueterbog-Altes Lager. Trucks were observed entering and leaving the field.

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Comment. Jueterbog-Altes Lager airfield was occupied by a fighter regiment and an air reconnaissance regiment prior to 5 July 1953. Between 5 and 7 July, the air units of the reconnaissance regiment were withdrawn from the area of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army. At present, there is intensive air activity at Jueterbog-Altes Lager airfield by aircraft of the fighter regiment and the ground attack regiment from Reinsdorf.

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